

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF FOSSTON, POLK COUNTY MINNESOTA
JANUARY 11, 2016

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fosston, Polk County Minnesota was held in council chambers on Monday, January 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Offerdahl with the following members present: Anderson, Veum, Dufault and Hoialmen. Also present was Karen Graham, Dave Larson, Sheriff Erdman, Deputy Folkert, Paige Tompkins and Keith Kinnen of KBM, Sup't. Mark Nohner, Ed Lavelle, Jen Howard, Leah Hemmingsen, Jim Palubicki, Joe Schmidt, Richard Balstad and Lee Cariveau.

Motion was made by Dufault seconded by Veum to approve the agenda with the following modifications: Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- A) Review development agreement that includes use of additional \$75,000 TIF;
- B) Jim Palubicki here regarding Donny Olson lot.

Motion was made by Anderson seconded by Veum to approve Consent Agenda Items A – H. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- A) To approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 14, 2015 as per copies furnished each member.
- B) To approve Accounts Payable Bill Listing #16-01 in the amount of \$56,391.02 and AP Bill Listing #16-01A in the amount of \$640,442.82.

COMMITTEES/BOARDS/COMMISSION:

Law Enforcement: Sheriff Erdman was present with Deputy Folkert to discuss law enforcement matters. Folkert reports no major incidences, just routine school and traffic patrol. Councilmember Anderson wondered what hours our deputies are covering in Fosston. An alarm at IPS went off and a responding deputy came from Erskine, not Fosston. One reason that would happen is if the Fosston Deputy is on vacation or not working then the area is covered by another county deputy. He has been listening to complaints from people regarding the speed on Highway 2 as well as the Columbia Road. Councilmember Dufault asked if there were drug concerns in town as some residents have expressed concern that drugs may be in their neighborhoods. Sheriff Erdman encourages people to call with any and all information so it can be checked out. The Polk County Drug Task Force works in the county as well as other surrounding counties. Offerdahl also mentioned vehicles that are not moving off streets so plows can get the streets cleaned off should perhaps be ticketed.

Streets/Sanitation/Utilities: Dave Larson reported on matters pertaining to his departments:

- Crews got the streets plowed last week after the unexpected snowfall.
- Last week crews did some terminating of old electrical so we had two scheduled outages that went well.
- There are a lot of transformers to check this winter and other electrical terminating still to do.
- Christmas decorations got taken down.
- The water leak at Maple Ridge has been fixed.

Civic Center/Parks & Recreation: Karen Graham was present to discuss civic center matters:

- A pump was replaced upstairs. The cost was around \$1,600 but it heats the showers.
- Graham plans to get the sand replaced in February or March and is working out the details for delivery and getting it upstairs to the filtration area.
- The skating rink has been well used to far.
- Water Zumba classes started this evening.

Community/Economic Development:

- The FEDA board met today. Action items for 2016 were discussed.
- The board met with an individual interested in applying for an equipment loan for their new business.

Jim Palubicki approached the council regarding the Donny Olson lot. As he explained, he has purchased the Lomen house and wants to use that lot for employee parking for his new store. This house would be a nice fit for the Olson lot because of the size of each. Costs to move the house are about \$15,000; to add a basement about another \$20,000 as well as other costs. He prefers to move the home rather than tear it down. If he can buy the lot for little or nothing he will move it there. If the lot costs \$15,000 it wouldn't be worth it. Offerdahl informed Palubicki that determining a sale price for this lot is on tonight's agenda so we will discuss it later in the meeting.

Superintendent Nohner was present to discuss the possibility of vacating a portion of Second Street NE for a potential school gym expansion project. After the last referendum failed, they got a lot of feedback. They look at all options for the old gym and options on the South side if the old gym were demolished. They then began discussing the north side. Two options on the north side are the Dental Office and the Triangle piece of property. The dental office option is the most desirable but either of these requires vacating part of the street. The school is landlocked and they need more room. They have been in contact with the property owners who are receptive to the idea. That does not always happen. Offerdahl agrees that they are landlocked. They need more room so the solution is probably to vacate the street. He is receptive to this. It's a unique opportunity at this time and council can agree to discuss this further. We will have to decide whether to hold a hearing. That hearing will dictate if we decide to vacate but it is important to move forward.

